WHAT IS TO BE YOUR LIFE-WORK?

WHY NOT THE MINISTRY?

Presbyterian Committee of Publication,
Richmond, Va.

RECORD BOOKS AND CLASS SUPPLIES

Superintendent's Pocket Record, ... .50

Superintendent's Hand-book, with lessons and records for 1905, ... .35

Superintendent's Roll Book, ... .30

Mason's Perfect Class Book. Best published. Our own publication. Names written but once a year; 5c. each; dozen, ... .50

Eiler's Class Books. 6c. each; per dozen, ... .60

Secretary's Record. Meyers. 25 classes, ... .60

Secretary's Record. Meyers. 50 classes, ... .75

Primary Class Record. Meyers, ... .20

Perfect Collection Envelopes, with clasp. Per dozen, ... .50

Model Collection Envelopes. Per doz., ... .35

N. Y. Library Record. Class on a page, ... .80

Walter's Library Record, 116 pages, ... .40

Powell's Library Record. Best we know, ... .75

Numbers for back of books. Per 100, ... .05

Labels for inside of books. Per 100, ... .25

Library Order Card. Per 100, ... .50

Pigeon Hole Card. Per 100, ... .35

Punches for Library Cards. Each, ... .50

Card Records for Classes (a card for each scholar in a class envelope; the Secretary notes absence by punching cards; no time lost by teacher in making up class record).

Scholar's Cards (Card Record System). Per 100, .60

Class Envelopes (Card Record System). Each, .02

Report Slips for Secretary (Card Record System). Per 100, ... .30

Punch for Secretary (Card Record System). Each, ... .50

Report Slips, teacher to parents. Per 100, ... .40

Collection Envelope, with Card inside to record class-offering, record kept by Sunday-school Secretary. A time-saver for teachers. Envelope and Card, per doz., ... .30

Written Review Questions, Quarterly. Per 100, .50

Written Review Questions, Weekly. Per 100, .50

Order of Exercises for School. Per 100, ... 50

Conquest Hymns, one of the best new books for Sunday-schools. Each ..... .25

Presbyterian Committee of Publication,

Richmond, Va.

WHAT IS TO BE YOUR LIFE-WORK?
WHY NOT THE MINISTRY?

TRACT No. 1.

"WHY STAND YE HERE ALL THE DAY IDLE?"

NEARLY every kind of occupation is now becoming overcrowded. When a young man leaves school or college to engage in business for himself, it is always hard to decide which profession or trade he shall enter, because there is scarcely room for any more competition in any one of them. When he has chosen his calling, and has prepared himself for it, he must at once meet another problem that is equally hard. He must find some place where there is an opening for himself. Where shall the young lawyer, or the young physician, make his home and begin the practice of his profession, or where shall the young merchant find a "good stand" for his store?

I was once hunting work for a friend of mine in a city where I knew a great many people in all kinds of business, and when I applied to a mechanic for some advice about it, he said to me, "There are already two applicants for every job in this city." That same condition exists in many places. The host of office-seekers in Washington city are only a part of the overflow from the gorged trades and professions throughout the country.

These statements apply to young women as well as to young men. The time is passed when women are content to live at home in elegant idleness. Women are waking up to the fact that they are capable of working for their own support and of contributing something to the well-being of humanity. A number of proper kinds of work are open to them, but there has been such a rush for these places that they have been quickly filled. Many young women who have fitted themselves for work, and are eager to find work are idle.

Meanwhile there is *one occupation that is not overcrowded.* There is a demand, amounting to an out-cry, for laborers in the gospel ministry, and in all the departments of home and foreign mission work. "The harvest truly

is plenteous, but the laborers are few." This state of things reminds us of the parable of the householder in the market-place. Can we not hear the Master in the market places to-day crying to those whom no man has hired, "Why stand ye here all the day idle? go ye into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right that shall ye receive."

Young man, young woman, PERHAPS HE IS CALLING YOU TO HIS VINEYARD.

Please to read Tract No. 2 of this series.

PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION,
RICHMOND, VA.

WHAT IS TO BE YOUR LIFE-WORK?
WHY NOT THE MINISTRY?

TRACT No. 2.

YOUNG MAN, WHY DO YOU NOT ENTER THE GOSPEL MINISTRY?

YOUNG WOMAN, WHY DO YOU NOT BECOME A MISSIONARY?

YOU say, "Because *I do not know that I am called to that work.*"

I reply, "Do YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT CALLED? Have you ever sought any light on the subject? Have you thought over it seriously? Have you inquired diligently of the Lord to know his will about it?" When Paul was converted, he asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Have you asked the Lord what he will have you to do with your life? God has made you for some special work, just as he did Jeremiah (see Jer. i.), and he alone can tell you what that work is. How can you expect to know if you do not ask of him?

But you will say, "Are not the gospel ministry and the mission work very sacred callings, and is it not sacrilegious for one to go into them who has not been called?" Yes, that is very true, but it is *equally sacrilegious to remain out of them* when you have been called into them. You are between two difficulties, and if you have any regard for the will of God and for your own responsibility, you are forced to take up the question and settle it. Life is a very serious thing, and it is a serious question what to do with it. There may be souls whose salvation is waiting on your ministry.

God has given you a promise, "The meek will he guide in judgment," and if you seek for light in an earnest, trustful spirit he will surely give it to you. Wait on the Lord.

The thing which will be most displeasing of all to God is *indifference to his will.* Beware of apathy!

Please to read Tract No 3 *of this series.*

PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION,
RICHMOND, VA.

WHAT IS TO BE YOUR LIFE-WORK?
WHY NOT THE MINISTRY?

TRACT No. 3.

A WARNING.

ABOUT twenty years ago there was a brilliant young student in one of our American colleges. He had a great ambition. He had resolved to make himself the leading lawyer in his native State. The faculty of the college said they had never known any young man who seemed so likely to realize all that his ambition might lead him to seek. His body was built for strength and endurance. His voice was a marvel of power. He was, beyond question, the ablest intellect in the college, and could excel with equal ease in all of the departments.

There was one thing lacking in him. He was not a Christian. There came a time when there was great religious interest among the students, and a friend of this young man tried

to approach him upon the subject. He met the advances of his friend with this frank and respectful but most startling statement: "I know all you wish to say to me, and I will admit that it is all true. I ought to be a Christian; but you know, B——, that I have determined to be the first lawyer in this State, and if I become a Christian, I will have to give up that ambition, for I would have to become a minister of the gospel. I am resolved not to give up my long-cherished plans. So I will not be a Christian, and it is useless to urge me." All who heard of the choice he had made, and had so forcibly expressed, were aghast at such an awful and deliberate rejection of God.

The subsequent history of that man was such that it looks as if God intended to make a warning of him. Within a year from the time of his graduation he was taken with consumption. He lost his magnificent voice, and could not speak above a whisper. He was obliged to give up the study of law, and try some other pursuits. A very few years afterwards, while in New York city on business, he was found dead one morning in his hotel room and alone.

He had deliberately rejected the clearly recognized call of God to his service, and God

put his hand on him in a most terrible manner, blighted his life, and sent him down to an early and ghastly end. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Please to read Tract No. 4 of this series.

PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION,
RICHMOND, VA.

WHAT IS TO BE YOUR LIFE-WORK?

WHY NOT THE MINISTRY?

TRACT No. 4.

A MODEL.

IN 1865 a soldier boy, seventeen years of age, laid down his arms with the army of the Confederacy. He was a bright young Christian, and felt the call of God to enter the ministry. But such was the wreck of his father's property that he was forced to enter into mercantile life. After some years of faithful work his life in business began to be a success, and he commanded a fine salary. During all of this time he did not give up the hope of becoming a preacher, nor did he cease to pray that the way might be opened.

At the end of nine years he received one day a letter from a gentleman offering to provide the money to fit him for the ministry, and he promptly accepted it. When his employer

heard what had taken place he tried to dissuade him from his purpose, and he was offered a lucrative partnership in business if he would change his mind and continue in mercantile life. But he was deaf to every such temptation, and was overflowing with gratitude to God for at last opening the way for him to enter the ministry.

He was now twenty-four years old. It was a long time since he had left school, and the war and business had entirely cut him off from books. His effort to get an education for the ministry was beset with many difficulties, but through the whole eight years of study he kept an unclouded faith in his calling.

When at length he was ordained to the ministry he asked to be assigned to Home Mission work. For fifteen years he has voluntarily devoted himself to the most laborious and self-denying mission work, "enduring hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." There are many souls in heaven now who have been saved through his ministry. There are scores of humble, useful Christians on earth who have been won for Christ by him, and who devoutly thank God for his ministry. He has organized many churches, and he has collected the funds

for building many houses of worship for the destitute, and has personally superintended the building of them. He has a happy home and a joyous and useful life, and a glorious hope for the future.

If you should be called upon to decide between some brilliant career in the world and any humble service to which God may call you, may these two cases help you to make a wise decision.

Please to read now Dr. Dabney's tract, entitled *What is a Call to the Gospel Ministry?* Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va.

PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION,
RICHMOND, VA.

Best Books for the Pastor.

	Postpaid.
Pastoral Leadership of S. S. Forces. Schauffler,	.50
Twentieth Century Sunday-school. Green, ...	.50
The Pastor Training His Teachers. McKinney,	.75
Ways of Working. Schauffler, ...	.90
Modern Methods in S. S. Work, ...	1.50

BOOKS FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT.

Teacher Training Course. Our own. 2 vols. Each, ...	.25
The Organized Sunday-school. Axtell, ...	.50
Grading a Sunday-school. Axtell, ...	.50
Sunday-school Teacher Training. Hamill, ...	.50
Teachers' Meetings. Trumbull, ...	.30
The Home Department. Hazard, ...	.50
Superintendent's Manual. Axtell, ...	.35
Graded Course for Sunday-schools. Our own,	.05

BEST BOOKS FOR THE TEACHER.

A Study of Child Nature. Miss Harrison, ...	1.00
Point of Contact in Teaching. Du Bois, ...	.65
Spiritual Life in the Sunday-school. Chapman,	.35
After the Primary, What? McKinney, ...	.75
Practical Primary Plans. Black, ...	1.00
The Boy Problem. Forbush, ...	.75
The Bible School Pedagogy. McKinney, ...	.45
The Seven Laws of Teaching. Gregory, ...	.50
The Art of Securing Attention. Fitch, ...	.15
Individual Work for Individuals (paper), ...	.35
From One to Twenty-one (tract). Murray, ...	.10
Peloubet's Notes—Annual Commentary, ...	1.00
The Sunday-school Teacher. Hamill, ...	.45
Gist of the Lesson—Annual. Torrey, ...	.25
Teachers' Manual. Axtell, ...	.35
Teacher Training Course. Our own. 2 vol. Each, ...	.25

Presbyterian Committee of Publication,
Richmond, Va.

OUR OWN PUBLICATIONS

Should be used in all our Sabbath-schools. Because they are sound in teaching, rich in lesson exposition, beautifully printed and illustrated, and helpful in suggesting methods of work.

THE EARNEST WORKER. Terms: 60c. per year; in clubs, 50c.

THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND. Terms: 30c. per year.

PEARLS FOR THE LITTLE ONES. Terms: 20c. per year, or school subscriptions, 15c.

LESSON PAPERS. Terms, 7½c. per year.

LESSON QUARTERLY. Terms: 20c. per year; in clubs, 12c.

JUNIOR QUARTERLY, for Intermediate Classes, per year, 12c.

HOME DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY. Terms: 20c. per year; in clubs, 12c.

THE PRIMARY QUARTERLY. Terms: 12c. per year; in clubs, 8c.

PICTORIAL BIBLE LESSONS. School subscription, 10c. per year. Issued only in quarterly sets.

BIBLE PICTURE ROLL—2 x 3 feet. With same picture as on Pictorial Bible Lessons, $3 per year, or 75c. per quarter.

LEEPER'S LESSON PICTURES. Terms: 20c. per year. Sold only in quarterly sets.

SCRIPTURE TEXT CHAINS. Terms: 12c. per year. Sold only in quarterly sets.

THE COLORS. A Quarterly for leaders of young people's societies, per year, 25c.

Presbyterian Committee of Publication,
Richmond, Va.